UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/AC.109/2017/Add.1
5 May 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION
WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

Addendum

The present document contains additional information on assistance by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to the British Virgin Islands.

95-13723 (E) 120595 170595

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

1. The programme of assistance of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for the period 1995-1996 is described in document DP/CP/BVI/3, containing the third country programme for the British Virgin Islands, approved by the UNDP Executive Board in April 1995.

2. In recognition of the specific characteristics of small island economies and in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the British Virgin Islands, the programme places emphasis on UNDP support consisting of the provision of policy advice and inputs for institutional strengthening, primarily aiming at the formulation of an integrated development strategy.

3. The British Virgin Islands, with a per capita gross domestic product (GDP) of $10,329 in 1991, has been affected by net contributor country provisions during the fifth UNDP programming cycle (1995-1996). Accordingly, the British Virgin Islands has only been issued a reimbursable indicative planning figure (IPF) of $97,000 for the remainder of the fifth programming cycle. However, by UNDP Governing Council decision 91/29 of 25 June 1991 the British Virgin Islands, like other net contributor countries, is entitled to participate fully in other components of the UNDP programme, including projects financed from the regional and interregional IPFs and from special programme resources.

4. As an associate member of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the British Virgin Islands continues to benefit from the fifth multi-island programme (1992-1996) for the Eastern Caribbean, described in document DP/CP/CAR/5, which was approved by the Governing Council in May 1992. The UNDP IPF resources for this programme, which concentrates on management development, environmental protection and resource management and poverty reduction, amount to $4 million.

5. The British Virgin Islands is eligible for UNDP assistance under the fourth regional programme for Latin America and the Caribbean, described in document DP/RLA/4. The Caribbean component of this regional programme has made provision for technical assistance in the amount of $7 million to benefit the countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), in which the British Virgin Islands has enjoyed associate membership since July 1991.

6. In response to the programme of action ensuing from the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, which took place in Barbados from 25 April to 6 May 1994, UNDP has launched a regional project funded under Capacity 21, which will provide the British Virgin Islands and other participating countries with the opportunity to strengthen their capacities to manage and implement sustainable development plans and programmes at the local, national and regional levels.

7. Moreover, arising out of the small island developing states programme of action, the British Virgin Islands stands to benefit from two aspects which are receiving particular UNDP attention. They are: (a) the establishment of the collaborative network to facilitate access by small island developing states to vital environmental information; and (b) the implementation of a technical

assistance programme, which will among other things support the implementation of the programme of action, and in particular address capacity-building constraints of small island developing States.